Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

arrangement is being watched and it should be given a fair trial before any further changes are introduced.

**MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): May I know the result of the working after this tentative arrangement was introduced in 1100?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): Government are watching it and they have to wait for the two years for knowing the result.

**MR. G. RAMAN MENON** (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Have any reports been received about it?

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Secretary to Government*): Reports are likely to come up only towards the close of the two years.

*Empire Exhibition.*

338. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(i) the economic effect of the Empire Exhibition on the manufactures and industries of Travancore; and

(ii) whether any of the exhibitors has found new demands and new markets for their wares, and if so, to what extent?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): (i) It is too early to judge of the economic effect of the British Empire Exhibition on the manufactures and industries of Travancore. The Exhibition has revealed the fact that there is scope for starting new industries in Travancore and for developing the existing industries.

(ii) Government have no information on this point nor is it possible to collect the necessary information. Dr. Kunjan Pillai, Special Officer for Travancore for the British Empire Exhibition, received several enquiries about Travancore products during the course of the Exhibition and since his return to Travancore, and he passed them on to the manufacturers and traders concerned.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): With reference to part (ii), may I know from the Chief Secretary the *new* industries that have been started since the Empire Exhibition?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): The existing industries that have been developed since the exhibition?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It is too early to judge of the effect of the British Empire Exhibition on the industries of Travancore.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I refer the Chief Secretary to lines 3 and 4 of the answer to part (i) of question No. 338?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): It is stated there that there is scope for starting new industries.

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**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): What are the *new* industries that have been started ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have already said that I have no information on that matter.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : What are the existing industries that have been developed ?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Ag. Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

*Notification adopting Avoirdupois weight for levying duty on tobacco.*

339. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): Will the Government be pleased to state the reasons that prompted them to issue Notification C. No. 525 of 26/Dev., dated the 25th February 1926 ?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : The Dutch pound equivalent to 42 tolas was used in Government institutions (*bauk-shalis* and customs houses) for the purpose of calculating duty on tobacco. The tobacco licensees and merchants never conformed to it, but used the pound Avoirdupois equivalent to 38 8/9 tolas, in their dealings with the public. They were thus reaping an unearned profit at the expense of the general revenues and of the consumer. The notification has equalised the weights of importation and sale and has also benefited the revenue.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : May I know why action was not taken by the Government against these merchants under the Weights and Measures Regulation ?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No cases were filed by any party. If any case had been filed, the Government would have taken action.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : May I refer the Member to the answer contained in line 4 ? Under the President's ruling I am not in a position to read it out.

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It was learnt only after enquiry that these weights were not in conformity with the Regulation.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : After it was learnt, may I know why action was not taken by the Government under the Weights and Measures Regulation ?

**PRESIDENT** : There was no offence under the Weights and Measures Regulation and consequently no action could be taken.

**MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether the Government ever brought to the notice of the tobacco licensees the necessity for the use of the Dutch pound ?

**MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): There is no information on that point.

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